



## THE PULBOROUGH SOCIETY

### COMMITTEE :

Chair:	Ian Ellis
Vice Chair:	Martin Ellis
Treasurer:	Michael Pioli
Secretary:	Felicity Stroud
Membership:	Frances Ellis
Programme Sec:	Vacant
Members:	Leo Hanmer, Suzy Hutcheson

### AGM HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL on the 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30 p.m.

**Attendees:** Rob Aylott, Martin & Frances Ellis, Ian & Lesley Ellis, Leo Hanmer, Jeanette Hicks, Suzy Hutcheson, Rosemary Jones, Christine Lindsay, Jill Moore, Richard Shenton Philip Stenning, Hardy & Felicity Stroud and guest Alison Williams-Bailey

**Distributed:** Copies of Agenda, Last year's Minutes, the Balance Sheet for 2022 and a Draft copy of the proposed new Constitution

1. **APOLOGIES:** Susan Bullock, Val Chapman, Siggy Hills, Judy Sinning
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**  
The Minutes of the last AGM held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 were approved by Rosemary Jones & Hardy Stroud
3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**  
There were no matters arising from these Minutes

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2022 had been the revival of a normal programme starting with the first meeting by Bill Avenall on "Why Church Hill is so steep" which was interesting as since the 28<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Church Hill had been closed due to a land slippage. This was followed by Inn Signs in March, It's not Rubbish, a talk on recycling. In June we celebrated Sussex Day in the Village Hall, then we had a talk on Hilaire Belloc then we had Ian Currie talking about 350 years of South-East Weather bringing in droughts, deluges and dust-devils and just recently a talk on British piers entitled "Walking on Water"

He remarked that it was very disappointing to have such a low turnout and it was discussed whether this had anything to do with the proximity of Easter or that this was an evening meeting.

Three ladies were thanked for their support over 10 years, but who had now retired, Jane Paton (Secretary) Siggy Hills (Programme Secretary) and Jill Moore (Membership Secretary) – there was resounding applause and we now thank Leo Hamner for her work on both the updating of the Constitution and the Website, Suzy Hutcheson for her expertise in artwork and production of brochures and Frances Ellis for taking on the role of Membership Secretary.

It was decided that the Constitution needed updating as it was the same since the start of the Society in 1973 and some of the provisions were now irrelevant or had been updated i.e. Annual subs 50p with pensioners and juniors 25p and there had been a wide range of aspirations such as Investment in securities or properties should be held by the Trustees and thanked Leo for her work which it is hoped to ratify at the June meeting as insufficient notice had been given to the members.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**  
The Treasurer went through the Balance Sheet which had been distributed, noting that there had been a surplus left over from the Heritage Weekend. Sussex Day left a deficit of £37.35. The Cream Teas at the end of last year showed a credit of £110, but this will be countered in next year's balance sheet with a deficit.  
This was proposed by Jill Moore and seconded by Christine Lindsay
5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**  
All current officers were willing to stand and the Chairman asked if the attendees were willing to give their approval en bloc. This was agreed and was proposed by Stephanie Pioli and seconded by Rob Aylott and agreed by those in attendance.

#### **PLAN FOR REPLACEMENT CONSITUTION**

6. A draft was distributed and briefly discussed by the Chairman, but as sufficient time had not been allowed to notify all members, this will be brought forward to the June Meeting.

#### **7. POSSIBLE CHANGE TO TIMES OF MEETINGS – all at 2:30 instead of some 7:30**

It was thought that older people might prefer all meetings in the afternoon, although there was some dissention on this as it was also felt that it would be a shame to be in the Village Hall on a hot summer afternoon.

Maybe the meetings should be split evenly between evening and afternoon – possibly having 8 meetings instead of 6, but avoiding the Easter school holidays. There is data showing evening meetings were preferred and it was thought that if the Society had all afternoon meetings, it would mean that those still working would not be able to attend.

It was suggested that meetings should be left as they are but be put on video and uploaded on to our website.

#### **8. WEBSITE UPDATE**

Leo has proposed a new format with a new web address which will be available

#### **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It had been hoped that there would be information on a referendum on The Pulborough Neighbourhood Plan, but Horsham District Council have decided that there will be no chance for this until at least Autumn next year.

The Meeting was then brought to a close